

## **OBJECTIVE 15:     IMPLEMENTATION OF PROTECTIVE ACTIONS - SPECIAL POPULATIONS**

### **OBJECTIVE**

Demonstrate the capability and resources necessary to implement appropriate protective actions for special populations.

### **INTENT**

This objective is derived from NUREG-0654 which provides that OROs should have the capability to implement protective action procedures, including evacuation, sheltering and use of potassium iodide (KI), for all segments of the population. (See evaluation criteria from Planning Standards E., J., and N.) This objective focuses on implementation of protective actions for institutionalized and non-institutionalized individuals who have impairments (i.e., sensory, movement, and/or mental/emotional impairments) that may necessitate special assistance or resources. Most of the specific provisions associated with this objective are outlined in FEMA Guidance Memorandum (GM) 24, Radiological Emergency Preparedness for Handicapped Persons.

This objective focuses on the capability of responsible OROs to provide assistance to special populations in implementing protective actions. Included in this objective is demonstration of ORO capability to provide emergency information, instructions, and transportation assistance to individuals with special needs, through the use of ORO plans and procedures. [The ability to provide emergency information and instructions for special populations (and others) within specific time-frames is presented in Objective 10, Alert and Notification.]

### **DEMONSTRATION CRITERIA**

<u>NUREG</u>	<u>CRITERION</u>
<b>E.7. J.10.c.,d.,e.</b>	<b>1.     Special population groups within areas subject to protective actions are identified and alerted/notified.</b>

### **Explanation**

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to alert and notify (i.e., provide emergency information and instructions) transportation-dependent, handicapped, and institutionalized disabled individuals through multi-modal means, such as: printed captions on TV screens; telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) that provide printed

messages; one-way or two-way communication devices, such as tactile alarm clocks, digital transmitters, transmitters triggered by hand devices, and tactical paging systems; or a human network.

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to accomplish alert and notification for all institutions responsible for special populations (e.g., medical facilities and nursing homes).

### **Extent of Play**

Under this criterion, all activities by responsible staff should be completed as they would be in an actual emergency. Since the general public is not required to participate in exercises, contacts with special populations may be simulated through contact with control cells. If, however, members of the general public voluntarily choose to participate, FEMA's evaluation will assess whether or not information (e.g., name and telephone number) for individuals, institutions, and support personnel (e.g., neighbor) is current and accurate.

#### NUREG

#### CRITERION

**J.10.d.,g.**

**2. Providers of transportation resources for all affected special population groups are identified and contacted. Adequate resources are secured, including special resources required for disabled individuals.**

### **Explanation**

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to:

- o determine the transportation resources needed by special population groups in the area affected by the plume and
- o contact the providers of these resources.

ORO should demonstrate the capability to: determine the number and types of transportation resources needed, based on exercise play; contact the providers of these resources concerning their availability; identify any gaps between available and required resources; and locate alternate resource providers to fill these gaps, if necessary. Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to provide vehicles and maps necessary for transportation of the mobility-impaired and to provide assistance to mobility-impaired individuals in boarding and alighting from vehicles. Since disabled individuals have varied needs, OROs should have the capacity to provide specific types of assistance to specific individuals whose needs are known in advance.

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to provide transportation resources and assistance to transportation-dependent members of the general public.

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to coordinate transportation support with institutions such as medical facilities and nursing homes to assist in the evacuation of residents or patients. OROs should demonstrate the capability to contact providers of transportation resources that may be needed by these institutions.

### **Extent of Play**

Under this criterion, all activities associated with identifying transportation resources and contacting transportation providers to determine availability of such resources should be completed as in an actual emergency.

Coordination with institutions that may require assistance with transportation and securing of transportation resources should be completed as in an actual emergency. If necessary, demonstration of this objective may be conducted out-of-sequence to accommodate the needs of institutions and transportation providers.

### NUREG

### CRITERION

#### **N.1.a. 3.**

**All activities described in the demonstration criteria for this objective are carried out in accordance with the plan, unless deviations are provided for in the extent-of-play agreement.**

### **Explanation**

Responsible OROs should demonstrate the capability to follow policies, implement procedures, and utilize equipment and facilities contained in the plans. OROs should demonstrate that they can follow sequences outlined in the various procedures and perform specified activities, as necessary.

## **Extent of Play**

Under this criterion, all activities should be carried out as specified in the plan, unless deviation from the plan is provided for in the extent-of-play agreement.

## **CLARIFICATION OF TERMS**

**Control cell** refers to exercise personnel who facilitate interfaces with nonparticipating groups, such as State and local government officials and special needs populations.

**Disabled individuals** refers to individuals who are deaf, blind, non-ambulatory and require support (e.g., crutches), frail, dependent upon life-support systems, or mentally or emotionally impaired.

**Emergency information** refers to material designed to improve public knowledge or understanding of an emergency.

**Institutionalized individuals** are individuals who reside in institutions, such as nursing homes or prisons, and may need to depend on others for assistance with protective actions. Institutionalized individuals may or may not have special needs.

**KI (potassium iodide)** is a prophylactic drug that can be used effectively to block the uptake of radioiodine by the thyroid gland.

**Special populations** are groups of individuals with physical or mental handicaps that need assistance when protective actions are implemented.

**Transportation-dependent individuals** refers to those individuals who do not have their own transportation and must depend on other individuals, taxis, or public transportation.